PATENT 09/870,144

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Eva Sevick-Muraca, et al.

Serial No.:

09/870,144

Filing Date:

May 30, 2001

Confirmation No.

9131

Art Unit No.

3737

Examiner:

Lin Yeoyuh

Title:

IMAGING OF LIGHT SCATTERING TISSUES

WITH FLUORESCENT CONTRAST AGENTS

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Willie Jiles

Date: January 12, 2004

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. 1.111

In response to the Office Action mailed September 12, 2003, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the following amendments thereto, and the comments as set forth below. Please amend the application as follows: